

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00402 101529Z

ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /018 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

SECSTATE WASHDC 6513

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LONDON FOR RRU, VIENNA FOR RPO, USIA FOR IOP/DA, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, UR

SUBJECT: ANSEL ADAMS EXHIBIT

REF: (A) 77 MOSCOW 17500, (B) 77 WARSAW 9065,(NOTAL)

(C) 77 USIA 34558

1. POST APOLOGIZES FOR LACK OF INFORMATION FROM THIS QUARTER IN RECENT WEEKS ON ADAMS EXHIBIT. COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS WITHIN MOSCOW BRANCH OF UNION OF GRAPHIC ARTISTS, WHICH VOLUNTEERED TO SPONSOR EXHIBIT (REF A), SUBSEQUENTLY CONTRACTED NEAR-FATAL CASE OF COLD FEET, DURING WHICH TIME COMMITTEE FELT UNABLE TO PROCEED WITH EXHIBIT ARRANGEMENTS WITHOUT SOME OFFICIAL IMPRIMATUR FROM "HIGHER-UPS". WE PURSUED MINISTRY OF CULTURE, MFA, MOSCOW CITY COUNCIL AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CULTURAL UNIONS TO TRY TO GET SOMEONE TO GIVE GREEN LIGHT TO COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS, ALL TO NO AVAIL. GOVERNMENT BODIES SAID THEY HAD

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NO AUTHORITY OVER "SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS", WHILE "SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS(I.E. COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS) INSISTED THEY NEEDED OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. THIS GLACIER-LIKE "CATCH-22" PROCESS CONSUMED AN ENTIRE MONTH AND WE HAD LITERALLY GIVEN UP HOME WHEN CAVALRY CAME TO RESCUE JANUARY 9.

2. WELL-KNOWN NATURALIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER VASILIIY PESKOV

(PARTICIPANT IN AUGUST 1977 "PHOTO-USA" SEMINAR) LEARNED OF SNAFU AND WITHIN ONE DAY SEEKS TO HAVE SORTED OUT BUREAUCRATIC KINKS. PESKOV HAS PERSUADED "PLANETA" PUBLISHING HOUSE (WHOSE DIRECTOR, GENNADIY KOVALENKO, CHAIRED "PHOTO-USA" SEMINAR MENTIONED ABOVE) TO SPREAD ITS MANTLE OVER THE ENTERPRISE. SITE AND SHOWING PERIOD REMAIN SAME AS NOTED IN REF A, BUT PLANETA NOW JOINS COMMITTEE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS AS CO-SPONSOR.

3. NET RESULT OF ABOVE IS THAT WE LOST EXTREMELY VALUABLE TIME AND ARE NOW FACED WITH SEVERAL PROBLEMS AND LITTLE TIME TO RESOLVE THEM. POST HAS RECEIVED ADAMS VOICE TAPE (WELCOMING MESSAGE TO VISITORS) AND COMPLETE BIO DATA FROM RRU BUT NEEDS INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING POINTS SOONEST RPT SOONEST:

A) FOR RRU - CAN YOU OBTAIN LARGE PHOTO OF ADAMS THAT YOU CAN SEND TO US? CAN ALSO USE NEGATIVE IF AVAILABLE TO MAKE EXTRAS FOR PUBLICITY.

(B) FOR AGENCY (IOP/DA) - REF C MENTIONS POSSIBLE AVAILABILITY OF SLIDES OF ADAMS' WORK. HOW SOON CAN WE OBTAIN? IN WHAT QUANTITIES? AT WHAT COST?

(C) FOR RPO - IF WE SUPPLY TRANSLITERED RUSSIAN TEXT, HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO RUN OFF ATTRACTIVE INVITATION?

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(D) FOR WARSAW - ASSUME EXHIBIT STILL ON SCHEDULE TO ARRIVE HERE JANUARY 16 PER REF B.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXHIBITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jan 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW00402
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780014-0984
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780181/aaaacqen.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9eaceae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 17500, 77 WARSAW 9065
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3801548
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANSEL ADAMS EXHIBIT
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, UR
To: LONDON VIENNA
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9eaceae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014